

JAN 15 1964

ST. PAUL, MINN.
DISPATCH

c. 128,742

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page
---------------	--------------	---------------

Date: JAN 15 1964

Truman Criticisms Of CIA Operations

Former President Harry Truman, who occupied the White House when the central intelligence agency was established in 1947, believes the CIA is now operating in a way never originally intended. Like Senator Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota and others, Mr. Truman fears the organization is "getting out of hand."

In an article written for the Washington Post, the former president said, "there is something about the way the CIA has been functioning that is casting a shadow over our historic position" (in foreign affairs).

"I never had any thought when I set up the CIA that it would be injected into peace-time cloak and dagger operations," he said. "Some of the complications and embarrassments that I think

we have experienced are in part attributable to the fact that this quiet intelligence arm of the president has been so far removed from its intended role that it is being interpreted as a symbol of sinister and mysterious foreign intrigue—and a subject for cold war propaganda."

The original purpose of the CIA was just what its name suggests, to serve as a central information gathering and correlating bureau, supplementing and evaluating the intelligence activities of the armed forces. Now it not only gathers information but carries out secret foreign policy missions of its own design, apparently including at times the subversion of foreign governments, a practice which the American government condemns when practiced by others.

As a practical matter, it is doubtful if any intelligence group can perform an unbiased job of weighing and evaluating information while it is sponsoring policy programs of its own. Its interest in justifying its own activities would not be conducive to unprejudiced judgments.